

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

OMB-01 /063 W

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R 251750Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2399

INFO USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 5692

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S CONGRESS EMPHASIZES SPLIT IN PARTY

1. RATHER THAN HEALING SPLITS, AS SOME PERONISTS HAD HOPED, PARTY CONGRESS HELD ON AUG 23 RESULTED IN WIDENING GAP BETWEEN VERTICALISTA AND ANTIVERTICALISTS FACTIONS. LATTER ACCEPTED MRS. PERON AS PRESIDENT OF PARTY AND WERE WILLING TO GO ALONG WITH FONMIN ROBLEDO AS FIRST VICEPRESIDENT PROVIDING HE RESIGN HIS CABINET POSITION. THEY HAD INSISTED HOWEVER THAT CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATES BE ALLOWED TO ELECT OTHER OFFICERS WITHOUT ANY INTERFERENCE FROM ABOVE. IN DEFIANCE OF THEIR WISHES MRS. PERON PRESENTED CONGRESS WITH FULL SLATE OF OFFICERS OF HER OWN CHOOSING. LIST HAD OBVIOUSLY BEEN NEGOTIATED (JOSE BAEZ OF LABOR WING RATHER THAN JOSE MARTIARENA BECAME SECOND VICEPRESIDENT), BUT IT NONETHELESS REPRESENTED HER LIST AND NOT THAT ARRIVED AT BY CONGRESS ITSLEF. IMMEDIATELY AFTER MRS. PERON OPENED THE MEETING WITH CALL FOR DISCIPLINE, BITTER DEBATE ENSUED AND ANTIVERTICALISTA DELEGATES BEGAN WALKING OUT. BY TIME VOTE WAS TAKEN NEAR

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MIDNIGHT SOME 100 OR MORE OF THE 250 DELEGATES HAD LEFT THE MEETING HALL.

2. THE PRINCIPAL OFFICERS ELECTED BY REMAINING DELEGATES  
WERE AS FOLLOWS:

PRESIDENT OF PARTY - MRS. PERON  
FIRST VICEPRESIDENT - ANGEL ROBLED0  
SECOND VICEPRESIDENT - JOSE BAEZ  
SECRETARY GENERAL - MANUEL TORRES

PLUS FOUR REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH OF THE  
THREE WINGS--POLITICAL, LABOR AND WOMEN--AS VOCALES.

3. ANTIVERTICALISTA FACTION IS ENRAGED BY OUTCOME OF  
PARTY CONGRESS. ONE DELEGATE COMMENTED LOUDLY AS SHE LEFT  
HALL THAT THIS SPELLED END OF PERONISMO. THIS MAY BE AN  
EXAGGERATION BUT CERTAINLY IT WILL BE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT  
TO PAPER OVER THE WIDENING SCHISM WITHIN THE PARTY.

4. EMBOFF HAD OCCASION AT SOCIAL FUNCTION TO DISCUSS  
CONGRESS WITH SEN SAADI, ONE OF THE ANTIVERTICALISTAS.  
LATTER CLAIMED SO MANY DELEGATES HAD WALKED OUT BY TIME  
VOTE TAKEN THAT THERE WAS NO QUORUM. HENCE, HE SAID,  
HIS FACTION MAY DEMAND THAT SLATE BE ANNULLED, CONGRESS  
RECONVENED AND ANOTHER VOTE TAKEN. WHETHER THIS IS DONE  
OR NOT, POSITION OF PARTY LEADERS ELECTED ON AUG 23 IS AND  
WILL BE IN DEBATE. THEY ARE NOT LIKELY TO HAVE  
SUFFICIENT BACKING TO MAKE POSSIBLE EFFECTIVE LEADER-  
SHIP AND CONTROL OF PARTY. WITH HER MAIN POLITICAL  
BASE THUS IN CONTINUED DISARRAY, MRS. PERON'S PRESTIGE  
AND POSITION ARE FURTHER UNDERCUT.  
HILL

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## Message Attributes

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